THE ORANGE COUNTY
REGISTER

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HE SAID, SHE SAID

SUPREME COURT NOMINEE, ACCUSER GIVE EMOTIONAL TESTIMONIES BEFORE THE NATION; BOTH '100 PERCENT' CERTAIN THEY ARE TELLING THE TRUTH ABOUT ALLEGED SEX ASSAULT

GETTY IMAGES

Supreme Court nominee Judge Brett Kavanaugh decried his confirmation opposition as a "national disgrace" at Thursday's Senate Judiciary Committee hearing.

GETTY IMAGES

Christine Blasey Ford recounted her secret of alleged assault by Supreme Court nominee Judge Brett Kavanaugh at a Senate Judiciary Committee hearing Thursday.

> "This confirmation process has become a national disgrace. The Constitution gives the Senate an important role in the confirmation process. But you have replaced 'advise and consent' with 'search and destroy.'"
>
> **Brett Kavanaugh**

By Lisa Mascaro and Alan Fram » *The Associated Press*

In an emotional day like few others in Senate history, California psychology professor Christine Blasey Ford quietly but firmly recounted her "100 percent" certainty Thursday that President Donald Trump's nominee for the Supreme Court had sexually assaulted her when they were teenagers — and then Brett Kavanaugh defiantly testified he was "100 percent certain" he did no such thing.

That left senators to decide whether the long day tipped their confirmation votes for or against Trump's nominee in a deeply partisan fight with the future of the high court and possibly control of Congress in the balance.

Showing their own certainty, Republicans quickly scheduled a recommendation vote for today in the Senate Judiciary Committee, where they hold an 11-10 majority. They're hoping for a final Senate roll call next week, seating Kavanaugh on the court for the October start of its new term.

WASHINGTON » PAGE 14

INSIDE: Kavanaugh and Ford present senators with stark choice. PAGE A12

INSIDE: Trump shaken by Ford, but backs Kavanaugh after hearing. PAGE A12

> "The laughter. The uproarious laughter between the two and their having fun at my expense. I was underneath one of them while the two laughed. Two friends having a really good time with one another."
>
> **Christine Blasey Ford**

COSTA MESA

Sewer district investigates overbilling by chief engineer

By Tony Saavedra
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The Costa Mesa Sanitary District is investigating allegations that it was potentially overbilled at least $200,000 over the last five years by its independent engineer, according to district officials and internal documents.

Under investigation is engineer Robin Hamers, who has been affiliated with the agency since 1981, serving at one time as district manager but now working as a private contractor providing engineering services.

Hamers remains on the job, though his duties have been pared

DISTRICT » PAGE 8

NFL

Rams' Goff propels team past Vikings

The Rams' quarterback passed for career highs of 465 yards and five touchdowns, leading his unbeaten squad to a 38-31 victory over Minnesota on Thursday.

SPORTS

The Rams' Cooper Kupp, left, celebrates with Todd Gurley after Kupp's 70-yard touchdown reception during their game against the Minnesota Vikings at the Coliseum on Thursday.

KEVIN SULLIVAN STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

BUSINESS

SEC sues Tesla CEO, alleges he lied to investors

The lawsuit seeks unspecified monetary penalties and a market-rattling request — that a judge bar Elon Musk from serving as an officer or director of a public company. PAGE A18

WEATHER

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REHAB RIVIERA

New state laws could revamp treatment of addictions

By Teri Sforza
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Gov. Jerry Brown signed a raft of bills into law Wednesday that will begin imposing order on the Wild Wild West of California's addiction treatment system.

Most take small steps in what reformers say is the right direction — toward stronger regulation. But one of the new laws could be a game-changer, forcing fundamental revisions in the kind of care offered to substance users.

That bill is Senate Bill 823, by Sen. Jerry Hill, D-San Mateo, which requires licensed rehabs in California to adopt the American

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